

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning AB 2549 without my signature.

While I understand the arguments behind this measure, I believe the nuances of the changes proposed may be too complex for many Californians who hire contractors to perform private works of improvement on their homes and private property.

Existing law, including lien protections and other “prompt pay” requirements, afford most contractors with sufficient protection to ensure payment on disputed payments. Additionally, I believe this bill will only further complicate the various disparate statutes regarding disputed payments between contractors and owners. This area of law that is very important to both the consumer and contractor has been amended piecemeal for far too long.

I am asking the Legislature to work on crafting a measure that would, not only simplify existing law, but ensure that California consumers are adequately protected and that contractors continue to be treated fairly while providing a consolidation and reform of this entire body of law.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger